

Making Marines...



"To Marines, the term 'expeditionary' connotes more than a given capability...it is a cultural mindset that conditions our Marines...to do more with less and to be prepared to fight and win."

-Gen. James L. Jones,
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Winning Battles...

The Fighting 13th



WESTPAC 02-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

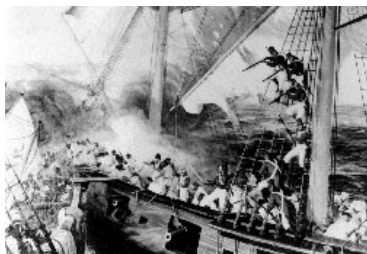
History of the Marine Corps	1
13th MEU Capabilities	4
MEU Overview	5
Structure Matrix of the 13th MEU	8
13th MEU Commanding Officer.....	9
History of the 13th MEU.....	10
BLT 1/4 Commanding Officer	13
History of BLT 1/4	14
HMM-165 (Rein.) Commanding Officer	15
History of HMM-165	16
MSSG-13 Commanding Officer	17
History of MSSG-13	18
Typical MEU Breakdown	19
Weapons & Equipment	20
Amphibious Ready Group	35



United States Marine Corps

History

Nov. 10, 1775, the Continental Congress passed a resolution stating that “two battalions of Marines be raised” for service as landing forces with the fleet. This established the Continental Marines and marked the birth of the United States Marine Corps. Serving on land and at sea, early Marines distinguished themselves in a number of important operations, including their first amphibious raid on foreign soil in the Bahamas in March 1776, under the command of the Corps’ first commandant, Capt. Samuel Nicholas. The 1783 Treaty of Paris ended the Revolutionary War and as the last of the Navy’s ships were sold, the Continental Navy and Marines disbanded.



Following the formal re-establishment of the Marine Corps on July 11, 1798, Marines fought in conflicts with France, landed in Santo Domingo and conducted operations against the Barbary pirates along the “Shores of Tripoli.”

Marines participated in numerous operations during the War of 1812, including the defense of Washington at Bladensburg, Md. They also fought alongside Andrew Jackson in the defeat of the British at New Orleans. Following the War of 1812, Marines protected American interests around the world in areas like the Caribbean, the Falkland Islands, Sumatra and off the coast of West Africa, and close to home in operations against the Seminole Indians in Florida.

During the Mexican War, Marines seized enemy seaports on both the Gulf and Pacific coasts. While landing parties of Marines and Sailors were seizing enemy ports, a battalion of Marines joined General Winfield Scott’s army at Pueblo and marched and fought all the way to the “Halls of Montezuma,” Mexico City.

Although most Marine Corps service during the Civil War was with the Navy, a battalion fought at Bull Run, and other units saw action with blockading squadrons at Cape Hatteras, New Orleans, Charleston and Fort Fisher. During the last third of the 19th century, Marines made numerous landings around the world, especially in the orient and the Caribbean.



Following the Spanish-American War in 1898, Marines fought during the Philippine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion in China, in Nicaragua, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Mexico and Haiti. In World War I, Marines distinguished themselves on the battlefields of France, as the 4th Marine Brigade earned the title of “Devil Dogs” for actions at Belleau Wood, Soissons, St. Michiel, Blanc Mont and

the final Muesse-Argonne offensive.

Marine aviation, which began in 1912, was used for the first time in a close-air support role during WWI. More than 309,000 Marines served in France and more than a third were killed or wounded in six months of intense fighting.

During the two decades before World War II, the Marine Corps began to more completely develop its doctrine and organization for amphibious warfare. The success of this effort was proven at Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Tarawa, New Britain, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, Saipan, Guam, Tinian, Peleliu, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. By the war's end in 1945, the Corps had grown to include six divisions, five air wings and supporting troops, about 485,000 Marines. Nearly 87,000 Marines were killed or wounded during WWII and 82 earned the Medal of Honor.



While Marine units were taking part in the post-war occupation of Japan and North China, studies at Quantico, Va., concentrated on attaining a “vertical envelopment” capability for the Corps through the use of helicopters. Landing at Inchon, Korea, in September 1950, Marines proved that the doctrine of amphibious assault was still viable and necessary. After the recapture of Seoul, the Marines advanced to the Chosin

Reservoir only to see the Chinese Communists enter the war. In March 1955 after five years of hard fighting, the last Marine ground forces were withdrawn. More than 25,000 Marines had been killed or wounded during the Korean War.

In July 1958, a brigade-size force landed in Lebanon to restore order. During the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962, a large amphibious force was assembled, but not landed. In April 1965, a brigade of Marines landed in the Dominican Republic to protect Americans and evacuate those who wished to leave.

The landing of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade at Da Nang in 1965 marked the beginning of a large-scale Marine involvement in Vietnam. By the summer of 1968, after the enemy's Tet Offensive, Marine Corps strength in Vietnam rose to

about 85,000. The Marine withdrawal began in 1969 as the South Vietnamese began to assume a larger role in the fighting. The last ground forces left Vietnam by June 1971. The Vietnam War, the longest in the history of the Marine Corps, exacted a high cost, with more than 13,000 Marines killed and 88,000 wounded.



In July 1974, Marines evacuated U.S. citizens and foreign nationals during the unrest in Cyprus.

During the mid-1970s, the Marine Corps assumed an increasingly significant role in defending NATO's northern flank as amphibious units of the 2nd Marine Division participated in exercises throughout northern Europe. The Corps also played a key role in the development of the Rapid Deployment Force, a multi-service

organization created to ensure a flexible, timely military response around the world. The Maritime Prepositioned Ships (MPS) concept was developed to enhance this capability and reduce response time. MPS ships carry combat support equipment and are pre-staged near designated areas of operation.

An increasing number of terrorist attacks on U.S. embassies around the world took place in the 1980s. In August 1982, Marines landed at Beirut, Lebanon, as part of a multinational peacekeeping force. For the next 19 months these units faced the hazards of their mission with courage and professionalism. In October 1983, Marines took part in the highly successful, short-notice intervention in Grenada.

In December 1989, Marines responded to instability in Central America during Operation Just Cause in Panama to protect American lives and restore democracy.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 led to the largest movement of Marine forces since World War II. Between August 1990 and January 1991, 24 infantry battalions, 40 squadrons (more than 92,000 Marines) deployed to the Persian Gulf as part of Operation Desert Shield. The air campaign of Operation Desert Storm began Jan. 16, 1991, followed by the main overland attack Feb. 24 when the 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions breached the Iraqi defense lines and stormed into occupied Kuwait. Meanwhile, the threat from the sea in the form of Marine Expeditionary Brigades held 50,000 Iraqis in check along the Kuwait coast. By the morning of Feb. 28, 100 hours after the ground war began, the Iraqi army was no longer a threat.



In December 1992, Marines landed in Somalia marking the beginning of a two-year humanitarian relief operation there. In another part of the world, land-and carrier-based Marine Corps fighter-attack squadrons and electronic warfare aircraft supported Operation Deny Flight in the no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina. During April 1994,

Marines once again demonstrated their ability to protect American citizens in remote parts of the world when a Marine task force evacuated 142 U.S. citizens from Rwanda in response to civil unrest in that country.

Closer to home, Marines went ashore in September 1994 at Cape Haitian, Haiti, as part of the U.S. force participating in the restoration of democracy in that country. At the same time, Marines were actively engaged in providing assistance to America's counter-drug effort, battling wildfires in the western United States, and aiding in flood and hurricane relief operations.

Today's Marine Corps stands ready to continue in the proud tradition of those who so valiantly fought and died at Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima, Chosin Reservoir and Khe Sanh. As stated by the Corps' 31st commandant, General Charles C. Krulak:

"Our warfighting legacy is one of duty, strength, sacrifice, discipline, and determination. These themes are cornerstones of the individual Marine and of our Corps. Indeed, they are woven into the very fabric of our battle color. However, while we reflect on our past, let us also rededicate ourselves to a future of improvement. For as good as we are now, we must be better tomorrow. The challenges of today are the opportunities of the 21st century. Both will demand much of us all."

Marine Expeditionary Unit Capabilities

Amphibious Operations

- * Amphibious Assault
- * Amphibious Raid
- * Amphibious Demonstration
- * Amphibious Withdrawal

Direct Action Operations

- * Seizure/Recovery of Offshore Energy Facilities
- * Visit, Board, Search and Seizure Operations (VBSS)
- * Specialized Demolition Operations
- * Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel (TRAP)
- * Seizure/Recovery of Selected Personnel or Material
- * Counterproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTW)

- * Peace Operations
 - Peacekeeping
 - Peace Enforcement
- * Security Operations
- * Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO)
- * Reinforcement Operations
- * Joint/Combined Training/Instruction Team
- * Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief

Supporting Operations

- * Tactical Deception Operations
- * Fire Support Planning, Coordination and Control in a Joint/Combined Environment
- * Signal Intelligence/Electronic Warfare
- * Military Operations in Urban Terrain
- * Reconnaissance and Surveillance
- * Initial Terminal Guidance
- * Counterintelligence Operations
- * Airfield/Port Seizure
- * Limited Expeditionary Airfield Operations
- * Show of Force Operations
- * Joint Task Force Enabling Operations
- * Sniping Operations



Marine Air Ground Task Force

MEU Overview

Since World War II, in nearly every crisis the United States has deployed projection forces, the first military units to move ashore one of America's Fleet Marine Forces. These forces, with sufficient sustainability for prolonged operations, have been organized into Marine Air Ground Task Forces (MAGTF) — a combination of air, ground and support assets.



MAGTFs are established for specific missions, or in anticipation of a wide range of possible missions. Combining air, ground and logistic assets maximizes the combat power of each of the war fighting elements.

MAGTFs have long provided the United States with a broad spectrum of response options when U.S. and allied interests have been threatened and in noncombat situations which require instant

response to crisis. Selective, timely and credible commitment of air-ground units have, on many occasions, helped bring stability to a region and sent signals worldwide to aggressors that the United States is not only willing to defend its interests, but able to do so with a significantly powerful force on extremely short notice.

The Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) is the smallest of the MAGTFs. Together with its Navy brethren, they serve as the nation's forward deployed, quick-response team, capable of accomplishing numerous missions around the globe.

The MEU, directed by a single commander, is comprised of approximately 2,100 Marines and Sailors, embarked aboard



three ships configured as an amphibious ready group (ARG), which is commanded by an amphibious squadron (PHIBRON).

The 13th MEU, working with PHIBRON-3 and the USS Bonhomme Richard ARG comprises one such Navy/Marine Corps team. It is one of the three West Coast-based MEUs from Camp Pendleton, Calif. These MEUs are routinely rotated through the Western Pacific/Southwest Asia region for six months at a time.

The MEU's major elements are the Command Element (CE), the Ground Combat Element (GCE), the Aviation Combat Element (ACE), and the Combat Service Support Element (CSSE).

The CE is comprised of the commanding officer and supporting staff. It provides the command and coordination essential for effective planning and execution of operations. In addition, the MEU CE is reinforced with specialized detachments, such as reconnaissance and surveillance elements,

radio reconnaissance and electronic countermeasure teams, and intelligence and counterintelligence assets.

The GCE for a MEU is the Battalion Landing Team. Based on the infantry battalion, the BLT is reinforced with an artillery battery, amphibious assault vehicle platoon, combat engineer platoon, light armored reconnaissance company, an M1A1 Main Battle Tank platoon and a reconnaissance platoon.

The Aviation Combat Element provides air support. Composition is based on the tactical situation, the MAGTF's

mission and size, and space limitations within the ARG. For the 13th MEU, the ACE is a reinforced medium helicopter squadron comprised of CH-53E Super Stallion, CH-46 Sea Knight, UH-1N Huey and AH-1W Super Cobra helicopters. The 13th MEU also deploys with fixed wing AV-8B Harriers, and two KC-130 transport planes are on standby at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. The ACE also deploys with an air traffic control, aircraft maintenance/support and aviation logistics/supply capability.

The final major piece of the MEU is the CSSE. Relatively small in numbers, usually with less than 300 Marines and Sailors, a MEU Service Support Group provides combat support, specifically: supply; maintenance; transportation; explosive ordnance disposal; military





police; disbursing (pay services); water production and distribution; engineering; medical and dental services; fuel storage and distribution; and other services to the deployed MEU.

The air-ground task force concept is designed to thoroughly exploit the combat power inherent in air and ground assets by closely integrating them into a single force. The MEU brings what it needs to sustain itself from the sea for the rapid accomplishment of the mission or to pave the way for follow-on forces. The size and composition of the MEU make it well suited for amphibious operations; security operations; noncombatant evacuation of civilians threatened by, or suffering from violence; special operations; and service as mobile training teams.

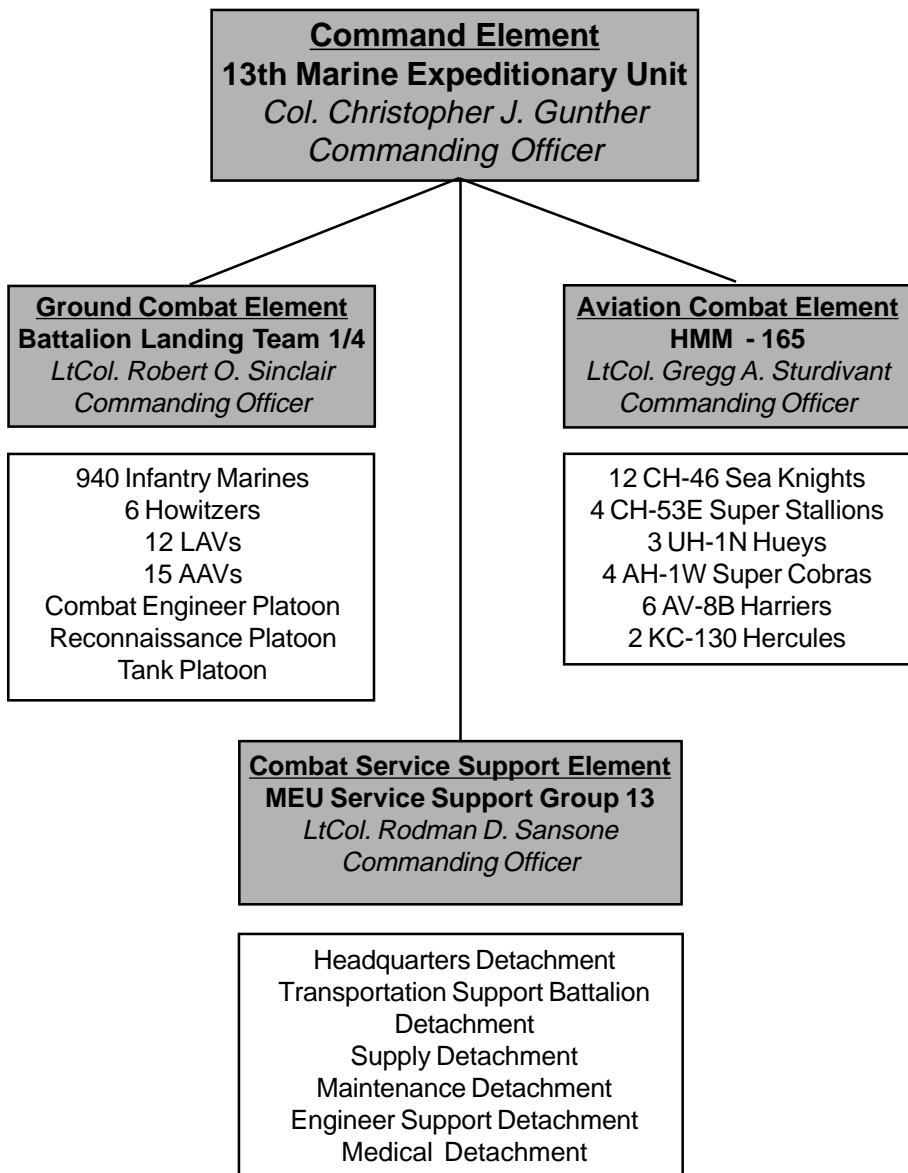
Prior to deployment, each MEU is thoroughly trained in 29 unique capabilities, ranging from humanitarian assistance to traditional amphibious assaults and special operations capable missions.

The MEU is not a special operations force by definition, nor does the Marine Corps provide forces with the primary mission of special operations. Though the Marine Corps does not have special operations units, MEUs are forward deployed in

“hot spots” around the world and are able to perform many missions in addition to conventional military fighting. An enhancement of individual and unit capabilities is reflected by the designation Special Operations Capable (SOC).



13th Marine Expeditionary Unit Organization Table





13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

Commanding Officer

Colonel Christopher J. Gunther, a native of Dayton, Ohio, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in June 1974 following graduation from the University of Minnesota, earning a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, and later a Master's Degree in Government from Georgetown University in 1982.

After the Basic School in January 1975, he went to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, in Okinawa, where he served as Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer. In May 1976, he reported to MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina. He served as Series Commander and Company Executive Officer. In June 1979, he was assigned to HQMC, Washington, D.C., as monitor for the Enlisted Ground Combat Arms occupational fields.



Col. Gunther next attended the U.S. Army Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Ft. Benning, Ga., graduating in December 1982. He then reported to 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, where he served as Weapons Company Commander and Battalion S-3. While assigned to 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, he participated in Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada and the Multinational Peacekeeping Operation, Lebanon. In October 1985, he was assigned as the Regimental S-4, 8th Marines.

In July 1986, he attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon graduation, he was transferred to the Amphibious Warfare School, Quantico, Va., where he served as a Tactics Instructor for one year and the Head Tactics Instructor for two years.

In July 1990, Col. Gunther reported to the U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany, where he worked in the Exercise Branch of the Operations Directorate.

In August 1993, he returned to the 2nd Marine Division and served as Commanding Officer of 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines from November 1993 to November 1995. He then served as Executive Officer, 8th Marine Regiment, and Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1 for the Division. While assigned to 2nd MarDiv, he participated in operations in Bosnia (1995) and in JTF Assured Response in Liberia (1996).

Col. Gunther was a Military Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington, D.C., from July 1997 to June 1998. He was assigned to the I MEF G-3 section in August 1998. Col. Gunther commanded 13th MEU during WestPac 00-2, when the unit participated in Operation Determined Response and a Humanitarian Assistance Operation in East Timor.

Col. Gunther's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals (one with combat V), two Navy Achievement Medals, and three Combat Action Ribbons.

Col. Gunther is married to the former Katherine Swederski of Menasha, Wisc. They have four children; Caroline (17), Laura (16), Christopher Jr. (14), and Michael (12).

13th Marine Expeditionary Unit History

The 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) was activated at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 1, 1985 as the 13th Marine Amphibious Unit. The unit was redesignated as the 13th MEU Feb. 5, 1988. It is one of three West Coast MEUs which make periodic deployments to the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf regions. Since its activation, 13th MEU has completed 11 Western Pacific deployments, participated in five amphibious training exercises, visited more than a dozen foreign countries, and conducted combat operations in support of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm and United Shield.

The “Fighting 13th MEU” has experienced a number of firsts. It was the first West Coast MEU to be designated as Special Operations Capable; having undergone extensive training in conducting a wide variety of special missions. It was the first MEU to deploy with Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC); the “Mastiff” remotely piloted vehicle; an entire section of Avenger air defense weapons systems and the first to refuel ground vehicles with the Tactical Bulk Fuels Delivery System mounted in a CH-53E. Additionally, they were the first West Coast MEU to deploy with a force reconnaissance platoon.

The 13th MEU (SOC)’s special operations capabilities were used extensively on its deployment during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Beginning a routine deployment June 20, 1990, the MEU was diverted to Southwest Asia in August 1990. The first amphibious force to arrive in the theater of operations, 13th MEU conducted the first Marine offensive actions against Iraq. In October 1990, elements of the 13th MEU (SOC) boarded two Iraqi tankers that refused to obey the United Nations sanctions.

The MEU conducted a number of operations during Desert Storm including a helicopter raid on Maradim Island, Kuwait, and amphibious operations the day the ground war started. The MEU’s last combat operation in Desert Storm was an Iraqi prisoner of war roundup on Faylaka Island, Kuwait, March 3, 1991, which resulted in 1,413 Iraqi prisoners. The 13th MEU returned to the United States April 16, 1991 after being deployed 301 consecutive days.

The 13th MEU (SOC) deployed again during January 1992. During this deployment, the MEU conducted training operations in the Persian Gulf, Africa and Thailand. Additionally, the MEU was the last deploying unit to visit the Philippines prior to the closure of Naval Station, Subic Bay.

In September 1993 the 13th MEU (SOC) deployed again and completed a routine exercise in Okinawa. The MEU arrived off the coast of Somalia in early October in response to increasing hostilities there. As a key element of



the newly-formed COMMARFOR SOMALIA, the 13th MEU (SOC) and 22nd MEU (SOC), remained on station ready to provide support to United States and United Nations forces.

COMMARFOR SOMALIA was disestablished when the 22nd MEU (SOC) was reassigned to the Mediterranean area of operations in mid-November. The 13th MEU (SOC) remained as the principle rapid response force in support of the joint task force. The MEU developed and executed two humanitarian assistance operations. The first, Operation Show Care took place in the cities of Marka and Qoryooley from Nov. 11-14. From Dec. 1-3, 1993, Operation More Care was conducted in the Old Port of Mogadishu. Both operations provided needed medical and dental assistance to Somali citizens.

The 13th MEU (SOC) continued its presence mission through January, providing aircraft for the “Eyes Over Mogadishu” missions as well as sniper support at the United States Embassy compound. Feb. 2, 1994, the 24th MEU (SOC) relieved the 13th MEU (SOC). By March 17, 1994, the 13th MEU had returned to the United States.

The 13th MEU (SOC) began its eighth Western Pacific deployment Oct. 25, 1994, only seven months after returning to Camp Pendleton. The MEU conducted its first scheduled exercise on Okinawa, Nov. 11-13.

They then sailed to the Persian Gulf and conducted three major exercises: Eager Mace in Kuwait, Nautical Mantis in Saudi Arabia and Iron Magic in the United Arab Emirates. Each of these exercises involved extensive bilateral training with the host nation. Additionally during this period, the MEU conducted a Maritime Interdiction Operation/Visit Board Search and Seizure (MIO/VBSS)

mission aboard the Honduran flagged Merchant Vessel Ajmer, which was in violation of United Nations sanctions with Iraq.

During January 1995, the 13th MEU (SOC) was ordered to conduct Operation United Shield; the withdrawal of UNOSOM forces from Somalia. The MEU sailed to



Africa and conducted operational rehearsals in Kenya. Feb. 3, 1995, the MEU was in position off the coast of Somalia and began conducting initial reconnaissance of the operational area and liaison with UNOSOM forces. Early morning Feb. 28, the 13th MEU (SOC) conducted an amphibious assault onto Somali soil and began executing a relief-in-place with UNOSOM forces. By March 2, the withdrawal of all UNOSOM forces was complete, and during the first hours of March 3, the final Marine forces departed Somali soil. The 13th MEU (SOC) returned to Camp Pendleton April 24, 1995.



The 13th MEU(SOC) departed on its ninth Western Pacific deployment on April 19, 1996. While deployed on WESTPAC 96-2, the 13th MEU(SOC) participated in Cobra Gold '96 in Thailand and Infinite Moonlight '96 in Jordan. During MEU EX in Kuwait, the 13th MEU(SOC) became the first MEU(SOC) to put the entire landing force ashore in Kuwait without the use of a port or airfield. This was a vital step in the validation of the plan for the defense of Kuwait, which had previously not been tested.

The 13th MEU(SOC) also provided a vital forward presence when, while on the way to conduct a transit of the Straits of Hormuz out of the Arabian Gulf Sept. 1, they were put on alert as part of Operation Desert Strike. The 13th MEU(SOC) never received a mission, but their presence in the Arabian Gulf gave higher headquarters additional options. Oct. 18, 1996, the 13th MEU(SOC) arrived off the coast of Camp Pendleton to end their deployment.

The 13th MEU(SOC) left on its tenth deployment Aug. 29, 1997. During WESTPAC 98-1, the 13th MEU(SOC) participated in Operation Southern Watch during November and December, helping enforce the no-fly zone over southern Iraq. The 13th MEU(SOC) also participated in Eager Mace 98-1 in Kuwait before returning home Feb. 28, 1998.

The 13th MEU(SOC) deployed for the 11th time on Dec. 5, 1998. During WESTPAC 99-1, 13th MEU conducted training in Hawaii, Singapore and Kuwait (Eager Mace 99-1). In addition to providing reinforcements to the U.S. Embassy in Kenya, the MEU also responded to the Eritrea-Ethiopia war where the MEU(SOC) stood by poised to evacuate U.S. and other designated noncombatants. The MEU accomplished some new firsts during WESTPAC 99-1: qualifying an entire heliborne company with the HEEDS bottle and the composite squadron, HMM-364(REIN), completing 35,000 Class-A mishap-free flight hours. The MEU returned to Camp Pendleton June 4, 1999.



In August 2000, the 13th MEU(SOC) began its 12th deployment. During WESTPAC 00-2, the unit conducted training in Hawaii, Australia, Singapore, UAE and Kuwait, and liberty in Thailand and Jebel Ali. The transit to the Arabian Gulf was highlighted by a stop at Tarawa, where 13th MEU(SOC) conducted a ceremony on the same soil Marines fought on in World War II. The unit also conducted a ceremony off the waters of Guadalcanal. From Sept. 14-16, the 13th MEU SOC conducted a humanitarian assistance operation in East Timor, offloading more than 570 tons of material by aircraft and more than 430 tons via seaslift.

In October 2000, the world was shocked by the terrorist bombing of the USS Cole, a U.S. Navy guided missile destroyer, in the port of Aden, Yemen. 13th MEU was immediately dispatched to provide security for the battered destroyer and its crew, and assist in Operation Determined Response, the recovery of USS Cole. The 13th MEU(SOC) marked its transit home with stops in Seychelles, Thailand, Hong Kong and Iwo Jima. The unit returned to Camp Pendleton Feb. 13, 2001.



BATTALION LANDING TEAM 114

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Robert O. Sinclair enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve while in high school, and attended MCRD San Diego in 1979. After graduating from Western Washington University in June 1983, he attended The Basic School & the Infantry Officer Course. Ordered to Hawaii, he served with the 1st Battalion, 3d Marines as a rifle platoon commander, battalion adjutant, and company executive officer. Transferred in July 1987 to San Diego, he served as a series commander with the 3d Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego, and as the Operations Officer for the San Diego MEPS.



In August 1991, Lieutenant Colonel Sinclair attended the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Ft Benning, Georgia, where he graduated with honors and was the recipient of the Leadership Award for his class. He then served as the Special Operations Officer for the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, where he participated in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia and Operation Southern Watch in Southwest Asia. After deployment, he served as the Commanding Officer, Company E, BLT 2/5, where he participated in Operations Continue Hope and Quickdraw in Somalia, and Operation Distant Runner in Rwanda/Burundi. He then served as the Operations Officer for 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, until being transferred to The Basic School in July 1995.

At TBS, Lieutenant Colonel Sinclair served as the Offense Section Head, and as the Director of the Infantry Officer Course. In August 1998, he was transferred to the School Of Infantry (West) where he served as the SOI Executive Officer before assuming his duties as the G-3 Operations Officer, 1st Marine Division, in July 1999.

Lieutenant Colonel Sinclair has attended several military schools, including The Basic School, Infantry Officer Course, Infantry Officer Advance Course, Airborne, Amphibious Warfare School (non-resident) and MCC&SC (non-resident). His personal awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (gold star in lieu of second award), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and Army Achievement Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Sinclair is married to the former Jessica Mason, and their family includes stepson Lucas Nelson (11 yrs) and son Seth (8 mos).

Battalion Landing Team 1/4 History

Although originally activated in April 1911 as part of the 4th Marine Regiment, the battalion considers August 1, 1922 as its official birthday. This was when it was first addressed as the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, in the Dominican Republic. From September 1924 to January 1927, the battalion was based in San Diego, Ca. During that period elements of the battalion were assigned to guard the U.S. mail.

From February 1927 to November 1941, the battalion served in China, where it was first addressed as "The China Marines," and began using the Chinese dragon in different official and unofficial logos and mastheads. During November 1941, the battalion, with the entire 4th Marines, deployed from China to the Philippines.

World War II found the battalion stationed at Olangapo. Ordered to Corregidor, the battalion helped defend that strategic island from December 1941 to May 1942. The battalion was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, but was also forced to burn its colors and surrender.

On February 1, 1944, a new 1/4 was activated by the redesignation of the 1st Raider Battalion. For the remainder of World War II, the battalion fought at two of the bloodiest campaigns in the Pacific, Guam and Okinawa. The battalion was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for Guam and Navy Presidential Unit Commendation for Okinawa. The battalion was part of the occupation forces in Japan after the war.



The battalion served in China in 1946. It spent the Korean War stationed in Japan. In 1955 it was transferred to Hawaii and stayed there until May 1965.

In May 1965, 1/4 deployed to the Republic of Vietnam. During four years spent there, they fought in practically every Marine area of responsibility. As a result of its actions during operations such as Starlight and Hastings, the battalion shared with 2/4 and 3/4 in the award of the 'Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm' for "outstanding bravery."

From October 1969 to 1977, the battalion served on Okinawa and participated in the rescue of SS Mayaguez and the Southeast Asia emergency evacuations. From 1977 to 1989, they were stationed at Twentynine Palms, then in January of 1989, they were transferred to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton.

In August 1990 to April 16, 1991, the battalion participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

As the GCE of the 15th MEU, the battalion conducted three real-world operations. Operation Restore Hope provided humanitarian relief to the people of Rwanda. After this the battalion moved off the coast of Somalia where they were tasked with providing several on-call missions which included TRAP, NEO and airfield seizure. All these missions were in support of the United States Liaison Office relocation from Mogadishu to Nairobi, Kenya.

The battalion became the ground combat element of 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit in July 2001.





Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Gregg A. Sturdevant was born in Kansas City, Mo., May 31, 1957. After graduating from high school in 1975, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and served until July 1979, honorably discharged as a sergeant. After earning a BA in Business Administration from Southeast Missouri State University in July 1982, he was commissioned a second lieutenant. Upon completion of The Basic School, he reported to NAS Pensacola for flight training and was designated a naval aviator in April 1984.

Second Lieutenant Sturdevant reported to HMT-301 at MCAS Tustin for initial training in the CH-46E. In November 1984, 1stLt. Sturdevant reported to HMM-364 in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. In January 1986, he deployed with the squadron to Okinawa, Japan. In September 1987, he was promoted to captain and attended the Weapons and Tactics Course at MCAS Yuma, Ariz. In January 1988, he deployed to Okinawa, serving as the Weapons and Tactics Instructor.

In January 1989, Capt. Sturdevant reported to MATSG in Pensacola, where he served as a flight instructor at VT-10 and served as a platoon commander for the Navy's Aviation Officer Candidate School. During this tour he earned a Masters Degree in Management.

In January 1991, he was transferred to Fort Rucker, Ala., to attend the Army Aviation Officer Advanced Course. Upon graduation, he was reassigned to 2nd Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (ANGLICO) at Camp LeJeune, N.C., where he earned his parachutist's wings and served as ANGLICO Det Commander for the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's deployment in May 1992.

After CH-46E refresher training in January 1993, Capt. Sturdevant reported to HMM-162 where he served as the Tactics and Plans Project Officer. In January 1994, he transferred to HMM-365 where he served as the Administrative Officer during a deployment with the 26th MEU. Major Sturdivant was the squadron Operations Officer from December 1994 until June 1996.

Major Sturdevant attended Marine Corps Command and Staff College at Quantico, Va., in 1996 and earned a Master's Degree in Military Studies. In June 1997, Major Sturdevant reported to Headquarters Marine Corps for duty in the Aviation Department's Plans, Policies, Joint Doctrine and Budget Branch (APP). He was promoted to his present rank in July 1999. During this tour he completed the Air Force Air War College Course.

In June 2000, LtCol. Sturdevant reported to the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, and was further assigned to MAG-26 as a Special Projects Officer during CH-46E refresher training.

In January 2001, LtCol. Sturdevant transferred to 3d MAW, assigned to MAG-16. He was subsequently assigned to HMM-165 to assume the post of Executive Officer.

LtCol. Sturdevant's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. He is married to the former Tina Marie Hunter and they have two children, Tyler and Emily.



Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 History

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 was activated in July 1965 at Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, Ca., as part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. During August 1965, the White Knights were reassigned to Marine Wing Service Group 37.

In September 1966, the White Knights deployed to the Republic of Vietnam, where they were assigned to MAG-36, 1st MAW. From October 1966 to August 1969, the squadron operated from Ky Ha, Hue/Phu Bai, the USS Valley Forge, the USS Tripoli, Marble Mountain area near Da Nang, and from USS Tarawa. In August 1969, the squadron redeployed to Okinawa. In December 1969, the squadron became part of MAG-36 again and it remained a part of the group until 1977.



During the early 1970s, HMM-165 participated as part of the Special Landing Force in support of activities in Vietnam; the squadron was also part of the 31st Marine Amphibious Unit operating with the Seventh Fleet. During July and August 1972, the White Knights took part in Philippine flood relief operations, flying in food and supplies to local populations. In April 1975, helicopters of HMM-165 took part in the evacuation of Saigon, Operation Frequent Wind. Lady Ace 09 evacuated the ambassador on April 30, 1977. In November 1977, the White Knights moved to Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii where they were reassigned to MAG-24, the air combat element of the 1st Marine Brigade.

During September and October 1983, as part of the 31st MAU, HMM-165 deployed to the western Pacific and Indian Oceans. HMM-165 was diverted to Beirut, Lebanon, where they conducted contingency operations from the deck of the USS Tarawa. In December 1989, the White Knights supported American interests, including reinforcement of the American Embassy in the Republic of the Philippines during that country's coupe attempt.

In August 1990, the squadron was sent to Saudi Arabia to participate in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The White Knights returned home from in March 1991. HMM-165 was the "last squadron in the Philippine Islands" when they supported the special purpose MAGTF from July to November 1992. From September to October 1992 a detachment was sent to Cambodia to participate in Joint Task Force Full Accounting. The squadron aided the task force in the search for remains of MIAs from the war in Vietnam. In March 1993, another detachment was sent to Cambodia; this mission was cut short when the task force base camp was attacked by mortar fire in April 1993.

As a result of base closings, HMM-165 was reassigned from the 1st MAW Aviation Support Element, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii to MAG-16, 3rd MAW, MCAS El Toro, Ca., on May 15, 1996.

While assigned to MAG-16, HMM-165 has participated in two Combined Arms Exercises; Desert Punch, the largest helicopter operation since the Vietnam war; and numerous squadron deployments. HMM-165 moved to MCAS Miramar, San Diego, CA in November 1998 as the result of more base closings. In December 1998, HMM-165 was designated the ACE for the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit.



MEU SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP 13

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Rodman D. Sansone was born in Columbus, Ohio. Upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy in May 1982, he was commissioned a second lieutenant. After completion of both The Basic School and the Combat Engineer Basic Course, he reported for duty to 8th Engineer Support Battalion as a Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer. In 1985, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone reported for duty to Recruiting Station, Macon, Georgia, where he served the next three years as the Operations Officer. After recruiting duty, he attended the Army's Engineer Officer's Advance Course at Fort Belvoir, Va. After graduation, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone remained on the Staff for the next 12 months as a Mine Warfare instructor.



Assigned to the 3rd Marine Division in January 1990, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone served as the Company Commander for Bravo Company, 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion. During this period, he participated in both Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm as the Regimental Engineer for 4th Marine Regiment. After the Gulf War, he served briefly as the S-3A for the Battalion and participated in Operation Fiery Vigil in the Philippines. He concluded his tour on Okinawa as Company Commander, Engineer Support Company.

Upon his return to the United States in 1992, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone reported for duty at the 1st Marine Corps District in Garden City, New York where he assumed duties as the Contact Team Officer. He subsequently was assigned as the Assistant for Enlisted Recruiting and briefly served as an interim Commanding Officer for Recruiting Station Buffalo. After recruiting duty, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone attended the College of Naval Command and Staff in July 1995.

After graduation in June 1996, he was transferred to the 1st Force Service Support Group and assigned as the G-3 Area Specialist for Oplan 5027. In November 1997, he was re-assigned as the Executive Officer for 7th Engineer Support Battalion. In July 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone transferred to I MEF and assumed duties as the I MEF Engineer Officer. During this assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Sansone also served on the Coalition Joint Task Force, Kuwait (Fwd) Staff as the Chief of Staff from February 2000 to June 2000.

Lieutenant Colonel Sansone assumed his present duties as the Commanding Officer, MEU Service Support Group 13 on March 16, 2001. Lieutenant Colonel Sansone's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 gold stars in lieu of third award, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Lieutenant Colonel Sansone is married to the former Margaretina DeCicco of Chatham, New Jersey. They have two sons, Patrick and Nicholis.

MEU Service Support Group 13 History

MEU Service Support Group 13 is task organized, equipped and assigned by the Commanding General, 1st Force Service Support Group, from the assets of the eight battalions organic to the FSSG. Its mission is to provide combat service support, specifically: supply, maintenance, transportation, deliberate engineer and health services to the forward deployed 13th MEU.

The Group was formally activated at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 1, 1985, but its history and lineage can be traced, indirectly, through a composite of the subordinate battalions of 1st FSSG from World War II through Korea and Vietnam. The predecessors of MSSG, Marines and Sailors from 1st Landing Support Battalion, 1st Supply Battalion, 1st Maintenance Battalion, 7th Motor Transportation Battalion, 1st Dental Battalion, 1st Medical Battalion and Headquarters and Service Battalion fought with distinction through Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Inchon, Chosin Reservoir and Vietnam.



Although the designation of the Combat Service Support Element of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force has changed many times, from Combat Service Group, Force Service Regiment, Force Logistics Command and Force Service Support Group, each Marine and Sailor still contributes his own specialized skill to ensure that combat arms personnel and equipment are prepared for combat and contingency operations.

With less than 300 Marines and Sailors, MSSG-13 stands ready to support the 13th MEU across the spectrum of combat service support requirements. Capabilities include replenishment of all classes of supply, vehicular transportation, and landing support for both amphibious craft and helicopters. Services supported through the MSSG include military police, disbursing and information systems management.



Engineer capabilities include explosive ordnance disposal, road improvement, water production and distribution, and bulk fuel storage and distribution.

Medical and dental support is resident in the MSSG for health maintenance, battlefield casualty treatment and evacuation.

During an amphibious landing, while the Marines of MSSG-13 are performing a myriad of tasks both ashore and afloat, they are always prepared to depart from their specialized mission and assume the role of Marine riflemen should the need arise.

While afloat, the Marines and Sailors of MSSG-13 are spread-loaded across ships of the Amphibious Readiness Group, proudly serving as an integral part of the Navy/Marine Corps team.

Personnel, Weapons and Equipment of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit

- Personnel
 - 2,000 Marines
 - 100 Sailors

- Ground Forces Equipment
 - 12 Light Armored Vehicles (LAV)
 - 8 81mm Mortars
 - 8 Tube-launched, Optically sighted,
Wire-guided, anti-armor missile
launchers (TOW)
 - 8 Javelins
 - 15 Assault Amphibian Vehicles (AAV)
 - 6 155mm Howitzers
 - 4 M1A1 Main Battle Tanks

- Aircraft
 - 12 CH-46E Medium Lift
Assault Helicopters
 - 4 CH53E Heavy Lift Assault
Transport Helicopters
 - 3 UH-1N Utility Helicopters
 - 4 AH-1W Attack Helicopter
 - 2 KC-130 Refueler/transport Aircraft
 - 6 AV-8B Vertical/Short Takeoff and
Landing (V/STOL) Attack Aircraft

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT



M-9 Pistol

The M9 is a light-weight, semiautomatic pistol manufactured by Beretta and designed to replace the M1911A1 .45 caliber pistol and .38 caliber revolvers.

The M9 has several safety features. It can be fired in either double or single action mode and can be unloaded without activating the trigger while the safety is in the “on” position.

The M9 pistol has a 15-round magazine, and may be fired without a magazine inserted. This



weapon can have the hammer lowered from the cocked, “ready to fire,” position to the uncocked position without activating the trigger by placing the thumb safety on the “on” position.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max Effective Range:	50 meters
Length:	5.51 inches
Weight:	2.55 pounds
Magazine capacity:	15 rounds
Muzzle Velocity:	365 meters/sec.

M16A2 5.56mm Rifle

SPECIFICATIONS

Max Effective Range:	800 meters
Length:	39.63 inches
Weight:	8.79 pounds
Magazine Capacity:	30 rounds
Muzzle Velocity:	853 meters/sec.

The M16A2 5.56mm rifle is a lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated, magazine-fed, shoulder- or hip-fired weapon made by Colt Manufacturing and Fabrique Nationale Manufacturing Inc. It replaces the M16A1 rifle.

The weapon is designed for either automatic fire (3-round

bursts) or semiautomatic fire (single shot) through the use of a selector lever.

The bottom of the trigger guard opens to provide access to the trigger while wearing winter gloves.

The upper receiver/barrel assembly has a fully adjustable rear sight and a compensator which helps keep the muzzle stable during firing.

The steel bolt group and barrel extension are designed with locking lugs which lock the bolt group to the barrel extension allowing the rifle to have a lightweight aluminum receiver.



M203 40mm Grenade Launcher



The M203 40mm Grenade Launcher is used while attached to an M16A2 5.56mm rifle. It is a lightweight, compact, breech loading, pump action, single shot launcher.

The launcher

consists of a hand guard and sight assembly with an adjustable metallic folding, short-range blade sight assembly, and an

aluminum receiver assembly which houses the barrel latch, barrel stop and firing mechanism.

It is capable of firing a variety of low velocity 40mm ammunition.

The M203 also has a quadrant sight which may

be attached to the M16A2 carrying handle and is used when precision is required out to the maximum effective range of the weapon.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max Effective Range:	1,148.35 feet
Minimum Safe Range:	101.71 feet
Length:	39.63 inches
Weight:	11.79 pounds
Magazine Capacity:	Not Applicable

M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon

The Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW), or 5.56mm M249 is an individually portable, gas operated, magazine or disintegrating metallic link-belt fed, light machine gun with quick change barrel feature.

The SAW forms the basis of firepower for the fire team. The gunner has the option of using 30-round M16 magazines or linked ammunition from pre-loaded 200-round plastic magazines.

The gunner's basic load is 600 rounds of linked ammunition.

The SAW was developed through an

initially Army-led research and development effort to restore sustained and accurate automatic weapons fire to the fire team and squad.

They were issued as a one-for-one replacement for the designated "automatic rifle" (M16A1) in the Fire Team.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max effective range:	3281 feet
Length:	40.87 inches
Weight:	15.16 pounds
Ammunition Capacity:	30 or 200 round magazine



SMAW

SPECIFICATIONS

Length

Carried: 29.9 inches

firing: 54 inches

Weight

Carried: 16.6 pounds

Firing: 30.5 pounds

Max Effective

Range: 500 meters

The Shoulder-Launched, Multipurpose Assault Weapon is an 83mm man-portable weapon system consisting of a launcher, a High Explosive, Dual Purpose rocket, a High Explosive Anti-Armor rocket and a spotting rifle cartridge.



The MK153 Mod 0 launcher is based on the Israeli B-300 and consists of a fiberglass launch tube, a 9mm spotting rifle, an electro-mechanical firing mechanism and open battle sights.

The 9mm spotting rounds are ballistically matched to the rockets and increase the gunner's first round hit probability.

The HEDP rocket is effective against bunkers, concrete walls and light armor. The HEAA rocket is used against current tanks.

The rockets are loaded at the rear of the launcher.

MK-19 Grenade Launcher

The MK19 40mm machine gun, MOD 3, is an air-cooled, disintegrating metallic link-belt fed, blowback operated, fully automatic weapon and is crew transportable with

limited amounts of ammunition.

It can fire a variety of 40mm grenades. The M430 HEDP 40mm grenade will pierce armor up to 2 inches thick, and will produce

fragments to kill personnel within 5 meters and wound personnel within 15 meters of the point of impact.

The MK19 also mounts in the up-gunned weapons station of the assault amphibian vehicle and vehicle ring mounts.



SPECIFICATIONS

Length: 43.1 inches

Weight: 137.5 pounds

Muzzle
Velocity: 790 feet/sec.

Max. Effective
Range: 1600 meters

M-2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun

The Browning M2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun, Heavy barrel, is a recoil operated, automatic, air-cooled machine gun with adjustable headspace and is crew transportable with limited amounts of ammunition over short

distances.

By repositioning some of the component parts, ammunition may be fed from either the left or right side. A disintegrating metallic link-belt is used to feed the ammunition.

It may be mounted on ground mounts and

most vehicles as an anti-personnel and anti-aircraft weapon.

The gun is equipped with leaf-type rear sight, flash suppressor and a spare barrel assembly.

Associated components are the M63 anti-aircraft mount and the M3 tripod mount.

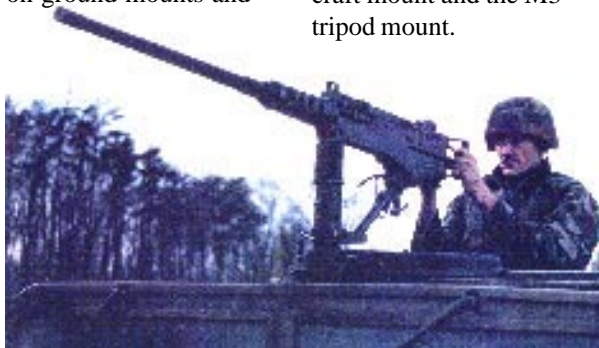
SPECIFICATIONS

Max Effective Range: 2000 meters

Length: 61.42 inches

Weight of Gun: 84 pounds
Tripod: 44 pounds

Max. Rate of Fire: 550 rounds/minute



M-240G Medium Machinegun

The M240G Medium Machine Gun is the ground version of the original M240/M240E1, 7.62mm medium class weapon designed as a coaxial/pintle mounted machine gun for tanks and light armored vehicles.

The M240G is modified for ground use by the installation of an "infantry modification kit," comprised of a flash suppressor, front sight, carrying handle for the barrel, a buttstock, infantry length pistol grip, bipod and rear sight assembly.

While possessing many of the same basic characteristics as the M60 series medium class machine guns, the durability of the M240 system results in superior reliability and maintainability when compared to the M60

SPECIFICATIONS

Length: 47.5 inches

Weight: 24.2 pounds

Max Effective Range: 1.1 miles

Max Rate of Fire: 650-950 rounds/min



Javelin Missile System

The Javelin is a man-portable, shoulder-fired, fire and forget weapon.

It implements an imaging infrared guidance system for pinpoint accuracy in all weather and light conditions. The

extended range, up to 3,000 meters, enables infantry units to strike from farther away, lessening the chance of being attacked.

The Javelin, fires a four-foot missile and nearly triples the range of the Dragon. The Javelin also has a minimal

heat signature, making it difficult to locate its firing position. The javelin can be fired from enclosed areas and reloaded quickly.

Once locked onto a target, the missile is fired from a disposable launch tube. The combined weight of the tube and guidance system is less than 50 pounds.

SPECIFICATIONS

Effective

Range: 65-1000 m

Time of Flight: 11.2 Sec to 100 m

Length: 50.40 inches

Weight: 30.9 pounds

Diameter: 5.87 inches



STINGER Missile System

The Stinger is a man-portable, shoulder-fired guided missile system which enables the Marine to effectively engage low-altitude jet, propeller-driven and helicopter aircraft.

Developed by the United States Army Missile Command, the Stinger was the successor

to the Redeye Weapon System. The system is a “fire-and-forget” weapon employing a passive infrared seeker and proportional navigation system.

Stinger also is designed with an all-aspect engagement capability and IFF (Identification-Friend-or-Foe), improved range and maneuverability, and significant countermeasures immunity.

The missile, packaged within its disposable launch tube,

SPECIFICATIONS

Length: 5 feet

Width: 5.5 in.

Weight Fully Armed: 34.5 lbs.

Range: 1-8 km

Crew: 2

Rate of Fire: every 3-7 sec.



is delivered as a certified round, requiring no field testing or direct support maintenance. A separable, reusable gripstock is attached to the round prior to use and may be used again.

TOW Missile System

The basic Tube Launched, Optically Tracked, Wire Guided Missile System was fielded in 1970. This system is designed to attack and defeat tanks and other armored vehicles. It is

primarily used in antitank warfare, and is a command to line of sight, wire-guided weapon.

The system will operate in all weather conditions and on the “dirty” battlefield. The TOW 2 launcher is the most recent launcher upgrade. It is compatible

with all TOW missiles. The TOW 2 Weapon System is composed of a reusable launcher, a missile guidance set, and sight system. The system can be tripod mounted. However because it is heavy, it is generally employed from a HMMWV or LAV-AT.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max. Effective Range: 2.33 miles

Time of Flight to MER: 20 seconds

Length: 50.40 inches

Weight: 204.6 pounds

Diameter: 5.87 inches



M224 60mm Mortar

The M224 60mm Lightweight Mortar is a smooth bore, muzzle loading, high-angle-of-fire weapon.

The cannon assembly is composed of the barrel, combination base cap, and firing mechanism.

It has a spring-type shock absorber to absorb the recoil.

The mount consists of a bipod and a base plate which is provided with elevating and traversing mechanisms to elevate/traverse the mortar. The M64 sight unit is attached to the bipod mount via a standard dovetail.

An additional short range sight attaches to the base of the

tube for firing the mortar on the move and during assaults.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max. Effective Range: 2.17 miles

Length: 40 inches

Weight: 46.5 pounds

Max Rate of Fire: 30 rounds/minute



M252 81mm Mortar

The M252 81mm Medium Extended Range Mortar is a crew-served, medium weight mortar which is highly accurate and provides for a greater

range (4,500 meters to 5,650 meters) and lethality than the previous 81mm mortar.

This mortar replaced the previous Marine Corps 81mm mortar in 1986.

The M252 is an adaptation of the standard British 81mm mortar developed in the 1970s. It is mostly commonly found in the mortar platoon of an infantry battalion.

The cannon has a crew-removable breech plug and firing pin. The muzzle end has a short

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	56 inches
Total Weight:	89 pounds
Max. Effective Range:	5700 meters
Max. Rate of Fire:	33 rounds/minute

tapered lead-in which acts as a blast attenuator device. The breech end is finned for better cooling.

This mortar also uses the standard M64 mortar sight of the 60mm mortar, M224.



M198 155mm Howitzer

The M198 Medium Towed Howitzer is a 155mm field artillery howitzer. It is constructed of aluminum and steel, and is air transportable by CH-53E

helicopter, and C-130 or larger fixed-wing aircraft.

The M198 provides increased range, and improved reliability and maintainability over the former standard towed

155mm howitzer, the M114A2.

The use of rocket-assisted projectiles significantly extends the range, lethality, and counter-battery fires of the direct support artillery battalions.

The M198 fires all current and developmental 155mm ammunition and can fire from direct or indirect positions.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max. Effective Range:	13.92 miles
Length:	36 feet
Weight:	15,758 pounds



M1A1 Main Battle Tank

The M1A1 is an improved version of the M1 Main Battle Tank (MBT). This tank significantly increases the capabilities of Fleet Marine Forces across the full spectrum of conflict in the near and midterm.

Engagement ranges

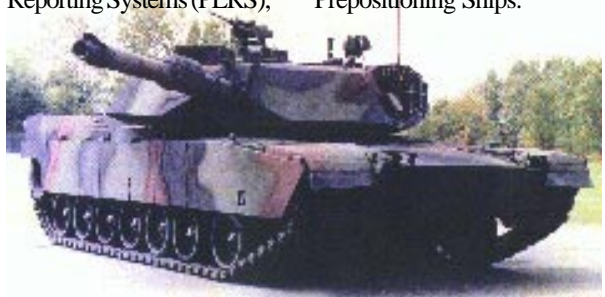
approaching 4,000 meters were successfully demonstrated during Operation Desert Storm. The M1A1 Tank, in addition to the improved armor, 120mm smoothbore gun and the NBC overpressure system, has a Deep Water Fording Kit (DWFK), a Position Location Reporting Systems (PLRS),

enhanced ship tiedowns, Digital Electronic Control Unit (DECU) (which allows significant fuel savings) and Battlefield Override.

The M1A1 MBT can also conduct operations ashore. It is compatible with all U.S. Navy amphibious ships and craft and Maritime Prepositioning Ships.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	385 inches
Width:	144 inches
Height:	114 inches
Weight:	67.7 tons
Caliber:	120mm
Max Speed:	42 mph



Light Armored Vehicle

The LAV-25 is an all-terrain, all-weather vehicle with night capabilities. It is air transportable via C-130, C-141, C-5 and CH-53E.

Its primary function is to reach and engage the threat for effective use of firepower to defeat soft and armored targets on the battlefield.

When combat loaded, there are 210 ready rounds and 420 stowed rounds of 25 mm ammunition as well as 400 ready rounds and 1,200 stowed rounds of 7.62mm. There are 8 ready rounds and 8 stowed rounds of smoke grenades. A M240G 7.62mm machine gun can

be mounted at the commander's station in the turret.

The LAV-25 is fully amphibious with a maximum of three minutes preparation.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	251.6 inches
Weight:	24,100 pounds
Speed:	62 mph
Crew:	7



SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	180 inches
Width:	66 inches
Height:	53 inches
Weight:	5440 lbs
Engine:	Diesel
Max Speed:	80 mph



Interim Fast Attack Vehicle

The Marine Corps' Interim Fast Attack Vehicle is a DaimlerChrysler model of the Mercedes Benz MB 290 GD 1.5 ton truck off-road vehicle built as a small all-terrain vehicle for the German Bundeswehr.

First deployed as a U.S. Marine unit in November 1999, the IFAV replaced the M-151 Fast Attack Vehicle, which previously served as a smaller attack version of the Humvee. The primary

advantage of the IFAV is its ability to be transported internally by the Marine Corps' workhorse aircraft, the CH-46 Sea Knight, CH-53 Super Stallion, and in the future, the V-22 Osprey.

Combat Rubber Reconnaissance Craft

The Combat Rubber Reconnaissance Craft was fielded to fill the Marine Corps' requirement for a small, lightweight, inflatable, rugged boat for use in performing various

raid, reconnaissance and riverine missions. It will replace all other small

rubber inflatable boats in the Marine Corps inventory.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	185 inches
Width:	75 inches
Height:	30 inches
Weight:	265 lbs
Engine:	35 hp
Max Speed:	42 mph



AAV7A1 Assault Amphibian Vehicle

The Marine Corps AAV7A1 family of vehicles carries the surface assault infantry elements of the landing force and their equipment from amphibious ships to inland objectives. Once ashore, the AAV7A1 family of vehicles supports maneuver warfare and performs

combat support and combat service support missions as appropriate.

There are three AAV7A1 variants:

AAVP7A1 -- This is the baseline version used for armored-protected mobility to the Ground Combat Element.

AAVC7A1 -- This



SPECIFICATIONS

Weight: 46,314 pounds

Load Capacity:
21 troops

Max. Speed
Land: 45 mph
Water: 8.2 mph

vehicle is used as a mobile command post for infantry battalion commanders during operations ashore.

AAVR7A1 -- This version provides recovery and field maintenance support for the AAV family during operations ashore.

5-Ton Truck

The 5-ton truck provides the primary tactical, medium transport for the Marine Corps and is used by all elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force for combat support and combat service support.

Marine Corps 5-ton trucks provide transportation, hauling and towing of just about everything in the equipment inventory. They are used to transport troops, supplies, ammunition, materials, etc. Additionally,

these trucks tow many types of trailers, artillery pieces and vans.

Almost all Marine Corps units are equipped with 5-ton trucks.

The 5-ton is available in cargo, dump, tractor and wrecker configurations.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length: 25.6 feet

Payload: 21,600 pounds

Weight: 10,000 pounds

Max. Speed: 62 mph

Crew: 2



M998 HMMWV

The M998 is the baseline vehicle for the M998 series of 1 1/4-ton trucks, which are known as High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles.

The HMMWVs include 11 variants. They are: Cargo/Troop Carrier; Cargo/Troop Carrier, with winch; Armament Carrier; Armament Carrier, with winch; TOW Carrier; TOW Carrier, with winch; Ambulance, basic armor 4-Litter; Ambulance, 2-Litter; Shelter Carrier; Shelter Carrier, with winch; Heavy

HMMWV (payload of 4,400 pounds).

The HMMWVs high power-to-weight ratio, four-wheeled drive and high ground clearance combine to give it outstanding cross-country mobility.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	15 feet
Width:	7.08 feet
Height:	6 feet
Weight:	5,200 pounds



MK48 Logistical Vehicle System

The Marine Corps fielded the heavy tactical vehicle system during the mid 1980s.

The Logistical Vehicle System (LVS) is a modular system consisting of a MK48 front power unit and four interchangeable rear body units (RBU).

The front power unit and rear body units are joined by a hydraulically powered articulated joint.

The completed units are 8x8 systems with two front steering axles.

The LVS has an off-road payload of 12.5 tons and an on-road payload of 22.5 tons.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	19.88 feet
Height:	8.5 feet
Width:	8 feet
Max. Speed:	62 mph



KC-130 Hercules

The KC-130 is a multi-role, multi-mission tactical tanker/transport which provides the support required by Marine Air Ground Task Forces. It provides in-flight refueling to both tactical aircraft and helicopters as well as rapid ground refueling when required.

Additional tasks performed are aerial delivery of troops and cargo, emergency resupply, emergency medevac and evacuation missions.

The KC-130 is



equipped with a removable 3600 gallon stainless steel refueling tank.

Each refueling pod can transfer up to 300 gallons per minute to two aircraft simultaneously.

Some KC-130s are also equipped with defensive electronic and

infrared countermeasures systems.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	97.75 feet
Height:	38.3 feet
Wing span:	132.6 feet
Range:	1000 nm w/ 45,000lbs fuel
Speed:	315 knots
Crew:	6

AV-8B Harrier



The AV-8B V/STOL strike aircraft was designed to replace the AV-8A and the A-4M light attack aircraft.

The Marine Corps requirement for a V/STOL light attack force has been well documented since the late 1950s. Combining

tactical mobility, responsiveness, reduced operating cost and basing flexibility, both afloat and ashore, V/STOL aircraft are particularly well-suited to the special combat and expeditionary requirements of the Marine Corps.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	46 feet
Wing span:	30.3 feet
Armament:	- AIM-9 Sidewinder - an assortment of air-to-ground weapons - AGM-65 Maverick missiles - GAU-12 25mm six-barrel gun pod
Crew:	1

The AV-8BII+ features the APG-65 Radar common to the F/A-18, as well as all previous systems and features common to the AV-8BII.

AH-1W Super Cobra

The AH-1W Super Cobra is a day/night marginal weather Marine Corps attack helicopter that provides enroute escort for our assault helicopters and their embarked forces.

The Super Cobra helicopter is a two-place, tandem-seat, twin-engine helicopter capable of land- or sea-based operations.

It provides fire support and FS coordination to the landing force during amphibious assaults and subsequent operations ashore.

The AH-1W is operated in eight composite Marine Light Attack Helicopter (HMLA) squadrons composed 36 helicopters: 18 AH-1 and 9 UH-1.

It is currently being outfitted with a Night Targeting System with Forward Looking Infrared Radar to provide laser range-finding/ designating and camera capabilities.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	58 feet
Height:	13.7 feet
Rotor Diameter:	48 feet
Speed:	147 knots
Crew:	2



UH-1N Huey

The UH-1N is a twin-piloted, twin-engine helicopter.

It provides utility combat helicopter support to the landing force commander during ship-to-shore movement and in subsequent operations ashore.

The aircraft can be outfitted to support operations such as command and control with a specialized communication package (ASC-26), supporting arms coordination, assault support, medical evacuation for up to six litter patients and

one medical attendant,

It can also support external cargo, search and rescue using a rescue hoist, reconnaissance and reconnaissance support, and special operations using a new navigational thermal imaging system mission kit.



SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	57.3 feet
Height:	14.9 feet
Rotor Diameter:	48 feet
Speed:	121 knots
Crew	
Officer:	2
Enlisted:	2

CH-46 Sea Knight

The primary mission of the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter in a Marine Medium Helicopter squadron is to provide all-weather, day/night, night vision goggle transport of

assault troops.

The movement of supplies and equipment is a secondary mission.

Additional tasks include: combat and assault support for

evacuation operations and other maritime special operations; over-water search

and rescue augmentation; support for mobile forward refueling and rearming points; aeromedical evacuation of casualties from the field to suitable medical facilities.



SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	84 feet
Height:	17 feet
Speed:	145 knots
Crew:	5
Personel:	14
Cargo:	4,000 pounds

CH-53E Super Stallion

SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	99 feet
Height:	28 feet
Rotor Diameter:	79 feet
Speed:	150 knots
Crew:	3

As the Marine Corps' heavy lift helicopter designed for the transportation of material and supplies, the CH-53E is compatible with most amphibious class ships and is carried routinely aboard LHA , LPH and now LHD type ships.

The helicopter is capable of lifting 16 tons at sea level, transporting the load 50 nautical miles and returning. A typical load would be a 16,000 pound M198 howitzer or a 26,000 pound Light Armored Vehicle.

The aircraft also can retrieve downed aircraft such as another CH-53E.

It can carry external loads at increased air-speeds due to the stability achieved with the dual point system.

The 53E is equipped with a refueling probe and can be refueled in flight giving the helicopter indefinite range.





AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON 3

Commodore

A native of Montclair, New Jersey, Captain Connelly graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned an ensign in June 1976. In November 1977, he was designated a Naval Aviator. After completing his initial P-3C Orion training at Patrol Squadron 31, he was assigned to Patrol Squadron 48 from June 1978 to June 1981, participating in three Western Pacific deployments and detachments in support of fleet operations.



Assigned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) from 1981 to 1984, Captain Connelly served in the Systems Analysis Division and as Staff Assistant to the Director, Naval Warfare. During this tour he received a masters degree in Government with a certificate in National Security Studies from Georgetown University.

He reported to USS Midway (CV-41) in September 1984 and served as Assistant Navigator and General Quarters Officer of the Deck and was designated as Command Duty Officer (Underway). Captain Connelly next served as Assistant Maintenance Officer and Administrative Officer while assigned to Patrol Squadron 31 from May 1986 to October 1987.

In December 1987, Captain Connelly reported to Patrol Squadron 8 where he completed deployments to Rota, Spain and Keflavik, Iceland while serving as Safety Officer, Training Officer and Operations Officer.

Assigned to OPNAV from January 1990 to August 1991, he served as Assistant Branch Head of the Western Hemisphere Plans and Policy Branch within the Politico-Military Policy and Current Plans Division. Additionally, he was assigned as the Assistant Branch Head of the East Asia/Pacific Branch and Lead Action Officer for the Philippine Base Re-negotiations. He concluded his tour by serving as Aide and Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans, Policy and Operations) during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Captain Connelly completed a one-year assignment as a National Security Fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace, Stanford University. In September 1992, he reported to Patrol Squadron 47 as Executive Officer and assumed command one year later.

Following command, Captain Connelly was assigned to the CINCPACFLT staff as the VP/VPU Operations Officer. He next completed a tour from August 1996 to April 1998 in USS Inchon (MCS 12) as Executive Officer. He next completed tours as Executive Officer in USS Essex (LHD 2) and USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6).

Captain Connelly assumed duties as Commanding Officer in USS Bonhomme Richard in April 2000.

Captain Connelly's personal awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (with three gold stars), the Navy Commendation Medal (with four gold stars), the Navy Achievement Medal and other campaign and service awards.



USS Bonhomme Richard

LHD-6

USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) is the third U.S. Navy ship to bear this name, and is the sixth WASP Class multi-purpose amphibious assault ship built.

The first Bonhomme Richard was a late 1700s three-masted sailing frigate. It was 152 feet long, had a 40-foot beam, and berthed 375. It displaced 998 tons and was propelled by three main sails, three mid sails, three top sails and two jibes at a speed dictated by the wind. It had 28 12-pound cannons, six 18-pound cannons and nine nine-pound cannons.

The second was a mid-1940s aircraft carrier. It was 890 feet long, had a 180-foot beam and berthed 3,490. It displaced 43,000 tons and produced 150,000 horsepower from eight boilers that powered four shafts, which propelled four screws, and moved through the water at speeds faster than 30 knots. CV/CVA 31 had 12 five-inch .38 caliber guns, four of which were solo mounts and four twin mounts, and 17 quad-40mm anti-aircraft guns.



STATISTICS

Length:	844 feet
Width:	106 feet
Displacement:	40,500 tons (full load)
Power:	70,000 total horsepower
Speed:	20+ knots
Crew:	
Sailors:	949
Marines:	1,900
Builders:	Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula,

Today's "Revolutionary Gator" is a state-of-the-art floating wonder. It is 844 feet long, with a 106-foot beam, and berths 3,200. It displaces 40,500 tons, and produces 70,000 horsepower from two boilers that drive two geared turbines, which power two shafts and turn two screws to propel Bonhomme Richard through the water faster than 20 knots. Its onboard weaponry include two eight-cell Sea Sparrow missile launchers, two 21-cell rolling airframe missile (RAM) launchers, two Phalanx close-in weapons systems (CWIS), four .50 cal gun mounts, and three 25mm gun mounts.

The primary mission of LHD 6 is to embark, deploy and land elements of a Marine Landing Force in amphibious assault operations by either helicopter, landing craft, amphibious vehicle or any combination of these methods.



USS Ogden

LPD-5

USS Ogden is an amphibious transport dock ship (LPD), which is one of the most versatile classes of ships in the Navy. The LPD combines the functions of three different classes of ships; the landing ship (LSD), the tank landing ship (LST), and the attack cargo ship (LKA).

The ship is named after the city of Ogden, Utah. The principle elements of the seal and the city of Ogden are a beehive mounted on a stand, and a number of bees flying about the hive which is flanked by two flowers. A circle encloses these elements on which "City of Ogden" is inscribed. The ship's insignia utilizes these elements in a symbolic way to depict Ogden's mission.

Ogden is unique in having a helicopter platform built over a well deck in the rear of the vessel. This provides the tactical advantage of being able to lift troops, their combat equipment and supplies onto the same ship. Therefore, the ship contributes to all phases of the amphibious assault.

The well decks are upper and lower vehicle storage areas, which hold most of the embarked troops' heavy combat equipment, such as tanks, tracked amphibious landing vehicles (AAV), and trucks.

To facilitate the docking and loading of various sized landing craft, the ship can ballast down in the water, thereby flooding the well deck with enough water to enable the landing craft to enter the well deck through the stern gate door.

Once docked inside the well deck, troops, supplies and combat equipment can be loaded into or off of the amphibious boats and vehicles while simultaneously transporting troops and equipment via helicopter from the flight deck.



STATISTICS

Length:	569 feet
Width:	100 feet
Displacement:	16,710 tons (full load)
Speed:	20 knots
Crew:	
Sailors:	400
Marines:	800
Builders:	New York Naval Shipyards



USS Pearl Harbor

LSD-52

USS Pearl Harbor is a Dock Landing Ship (LSD) designed to operate as an integral part of a balanced, mobile and modern amphibious strike force. The ship



couples a well deck with a flight deck to give greater dimension to the Navy's troop and vehicle lifting capability. Primarily designed to transport pre-loaded heavy landing craft to the shore and

discharge them rapidly, she is also equipped with machine shops and facilities to provide dry docking and repairs to small boats. Pearl Harbor's mission is to transport Marines with their associated combat equipment, and launch pre-loaded assault landing craft and helicopters during amphibious operations against hostile shores.

The Pearl Harbor has the berthing, feeding and cargo storage capability for over 400 fully equipped combat troops. Intrinsic in the well deck operation is a ballasting system that fills the deck with sea water to a depth necessary for loading landing craft such as the LCU and LCAC.

USS Pearl Harbor is the last of the Harper's Ferry dock landing ship class, Pearl Harbor honors the naval base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, and the men and women who fought so valiantly in response to the surprise attack by Japanese forces December 7, 1941.

Pearl Harbor is the Navy's 12th Whidbey Island-class dock landing ship, and the fourth to be built with a "cargo variant" configuration, which provides additional space for Marine Corps equipment.

STATISTICS

Length:	609 feet
Width:	84 feet
Displacement:	17,000 tons (full load)
Speed:	20+ knots
Armament:	Four 3-inch twin barrel guns, two MK38 25mm machine guns and two 20mm Phalanx guns
Crew:	
Sailors:	346
Marines:	403
Builders:	Avondale Industries, New Orleans, Louisi- ana

NOTES

